

## 709,598 COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

1 SHEET

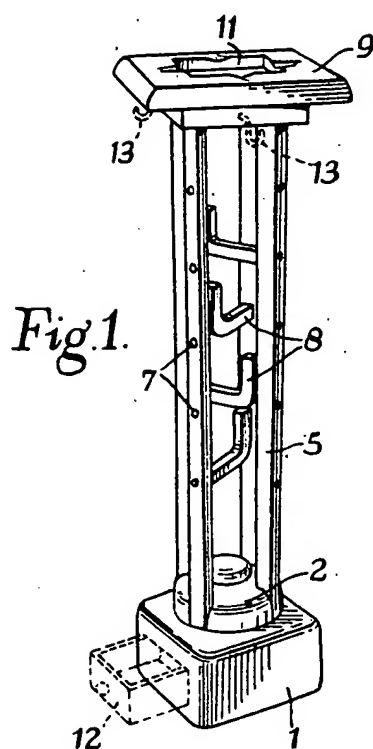
This drawing is a reproduction of  
the Original on a reduced scale.

Fig. 1.

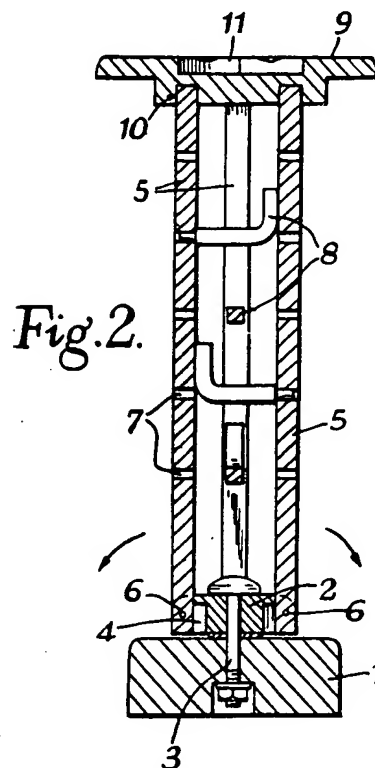


Fig. 2.

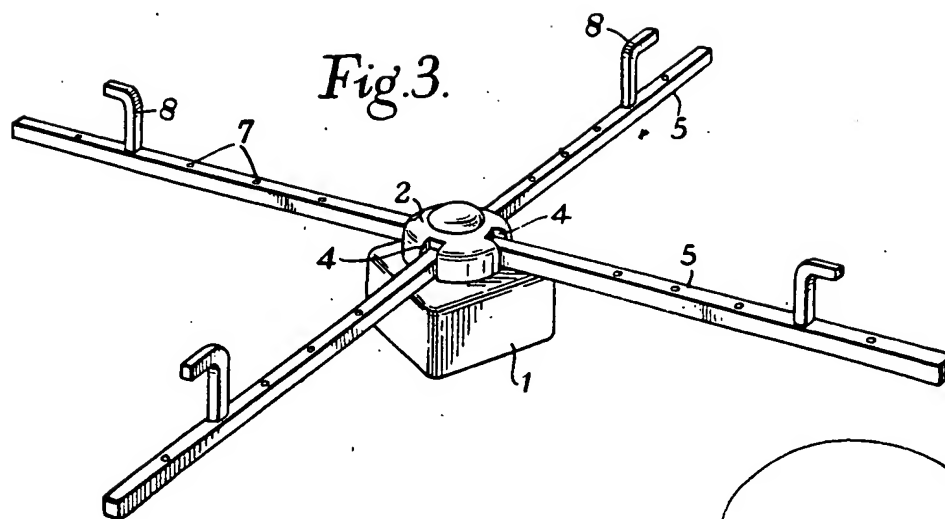


Fig. 3.

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607.1

## PATENT SPECIFICATION

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## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

## Means for Supporting Skeins of Wool for Winding into Balls

We, DOROTHY MAY HARDING [Miss], ALAN DAVID MACDONALD and JOHN ARTHUR TAYLOR, all British Subjects, and all of 90, Leighton Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

- 10 This invention relates to means for supporting skeins of wool for winding into balls and concerns means for this purpose of the kind which comprises a rotatable hub supporting two or more radial arms  
15 or spokes fitted with hooks, pegs or the equivalent about which a skein of wool can be placed and retained while the wool is drawn off and wound into a ball, and wherein said arms can be swung from said  
20 radial positions and folded towards one another into a compact form.

The object of the invention is to construct skein supporting means of the kind referred to in such a manner that in its  
25 folded or collapsed state it forms another and preferably useful article of furniture whereby the apparatus may be made to serve a dual purpose and constantly used to serve one or other of its purposes.

- 30 According to the present invention there is provided means of the kind referred to for supporting skeins of wool for winding into balls, which comprises a retaining member or cap which is adapted to be detachably fitted to the free outer ends of  
35 the folded together arms whereby the arms can be held substantially parallel to form a pedestal, and including a part serving as a base, on which the rotatable hub is  
40 mounted.

To enable the appliance to be converted into a useful article of furniture, the said retaining member or cap may be constructed to form an ashtray, workbox or other  
45 container, an ornament or any other small

article or a stand therefor. For this reason, too, the part forming the base may be constructed to accommodate a drawer, a nest of trays, or to form a locker or cupboard. If desired, the cap may be fitted  
50 with hooks or equivalent means for supporting a fireside-companion-set, a brush and crumb tray, a toasting fork or other similar implements.

In order that the invention may be  
55 clearly understood and readily carried into effect, reference will now be made to the accompanying drawings which illustrate one embodiment thereof by way of example and wherein:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the skein supporting means in its collapsed state and serving as an article of furniture;

Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the means  
60 when collapsed; and

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the means  
65 opened out for supporting a skein of wool.

Referring to the drawings, the skein supporting means comprises a base block 1 of any desired shape which  
70 is fitted on its upper surface with a hub 2 which rotates in a horizontal plane when the means is placed on a table, floor or other flat surface, the hub rotating freely about a vertical spindle 3 upstand-  
75 ing from the block 1.

The hub 2 is circular or of any other desired shape and is formed around its periphery with diametrically opposed recesses or notches 4 for receiving the inner ends  
80 of four or any other suitable number of radial spokes or arms 5, the inner ends of the arms being hinged at 6 in said recesses 4 to said hub 2 so that they can be swung out of a horizontal plane (Fig. 3) into  
85 vertical or substantially vertical positions in which they extend upwardly at right angles from the hub (Figs. 1 and 2) and combine to form a pedestal of skeleton form.

Each of the arms or spokes 5 is formed with equidistantly spaced apart holes 7 for receiving detachable hooks 8 which may be of L or T shape or comprise simply plain 5 pegs. This enables the pegs 8 to be adjusted to different radii from the centre of the hub 2 to suit them for large or small skeins of wool and also enables the pegs 8 on one arm 5 to be arranged so that they 10 alternate with those on a diametrically opposed arm so that when the arms are swung together in parallelism to the positions shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the pegs 8 on one arm will not foul those extending from an 15 opposite arm.

From the foregoing it will be appreciated that the arms 5 may be swung from skein supported positions in which they extend radially from the hub 2 in a horizontal plane as shown in Fig. 3 into positions 20 at right angles thereto in which they form a vertically disposed skeleton framework or pedestal as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The arms 5 are retained in a vertical 25 position by means of a cap 9 formed with recesses 10 in its lower surface which can be engaged over the upper free ends of the arms 5. This cap 9 may be plain and constitute a supporting surface for an ash-tray, work-box or an ornament, or may 30 actually be constructed in itself as an ash-tray as indicated at 11, or as a work-box or ornament. The hooks or pegs 8 bridge the spaces between the folded together arms 35 5 and combine with the latter to form an open framework of pleasing appearance.

Although in the embodiment described the hub 2 and foldable arms 5 are supported by the base block 1 so as to rotate in 40 a horizontal plane, it will be appreciated that the hub 2 could be supported to rotate with the arms 5 in a vertical plane, in which case means would be provided for preventing unintentional collapsing of the 45 arms when opened out.

The apparatus may be made wholly or partly of wood, metal, plastic or other suitable material.

As stated, the foregoing illustrated embodiment has been described merely by way of example and it will be appreciated that various modifications may be made within the scope of the invention. For instance, the base block 1 may be made hollow to 50 receive a slidable drawer 12 indicated in chain dotted lines in Fig. 1 for accommodating small articles. In this case the block 1 would be made deeper to allow for the spindle 3, or the spindle could be fitted 60 with a flange at its lower end for screwing on to the top surface of the block. Alternatively, the block can be made deeper and accommodate a nest of drawers or trays, or constructed to form a locker 65 or a small cupboard.

Instead of forming the underside of the cap with recesses which individually take over the upper ends of the arms 5, the underside of the cap may be formed with a single large cavity or aperture bounded 70 by side walls which will embrace the upper ends of all the arms.

If desired, the cap 9 may be fitted with hooks or equivalent means 13 (Fig. 1) so that the device in its collapsed form can 75 be used for supporting the members of a fireside-companion-set, a brush and crumb tray, a toasting fork or other similar implements.

By varying the construction of the cap 80 9, and the base block 1, the appliance may be made to serve a multiplicity of different combinations of purposes when collapsed. The number of combinations is too great to list in the present specification but purely 85 by way of example it can be stated that the device in all cases serves its primary purpose as a skein supporting means which can be folded into a collapsed state to form another article of furniture and can in- 90 corporate (a) a container for the ball of wool when wound; a stand for knitting-needle case and gauge and a receptacle for darning-wools, needles and a darning mushroom, or (b) incorporate an ash-tray and 95 a table lighter set, means for supporting a fireside-companion-set, and drawer for containing playing-cards.

What we claim is:—

1. Means of the kind referred to for supporting skeins of wool for winding into 100 balls comprising a retaining member or cap which is adapted to be detachably fitted to the free outer ends of the folded together arms whereby the arms can be held substantially parallel to form a pedestal, and 105 including a part serving as a base, on which the rotatable hub is mounted.

2. Means according to Claim 1, wherein the arms or spokes are each formed with 110 spaced apart holes for removably receiving the pegs for supporting a skein of wool, whereby the positions of said pegs can be adjusted to suit them for different sizes of skeins and also arranged so that they alternate with those on diametrically opposed 115 arms so that the pegs will not foul one another when the arms are folded together.

3. Means according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the retaining member or cap is 120 constructed to form an ash-tray, work-box or other container, an ornament or any other small article or a stand therefor.

4. Means according to Claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein said part which serves as a base 125 is constructed to accommodate a drawer, a nest of trays or to form a locker or cupboard.

5. Means according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, wherein the detachable retaining 130

member or cap is fitted with hooks or equivalent means for supporting a fireside-companion-set, a brush and crumb tray, a toasting fork or other similar implements 5 when the device is in its collapsed state.

6. Means of the kind referred to for supporting skeins of wool for winding into balls, constructed substantially as herein-before described.

7. Means of the kind referred to for sup- 10 porting skeins of wool for winding into balls, constructed substantially as herein-before described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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Agents for the Applicants.

## PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

### Means for Supporting Skeins of Wool for Winding into Balls

15 We, DOROTHY MAY HARDING [Miss], ALAN DAVID MACDONALD and JOHN ARTHUR TAYLOR, all British Subjects, and all of 90, Leighton Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, do hereby declare this invention to be described in the following statement:—

20 This invention relates to means for winding balls of wool or the like and concerns means for this purpose of the kind which comprises a rotatable hub supporting a 25 number of radial arms or spokes fitted with hooks, pegs or the equivalent about which a skein of wool can be placed and retained while the wool is drawn off and wound into a ball.

30 A disadvantage experienced with wool winders of this kind is that they are bulky and occupy considerable space when not in use. One object of the present invention therefore is to provide an improved construction of wool winder which is capable 35 of being folded or collapsed into a compact form when not in use so as to occupy the minimum of space. A further object of the invention is to construct the winder 40 in such a manner that in its folded or collapsed state it forms another article of furniture whereby the apparatus may be made to serve a dual purpose so that it can be constantly used to serve one or other 45 of its purposes.

In achieving the first mentioned object, the present invention provides a wool winder of the kind referred to which comprises 50 two or more radial arms or spokes which are hinged to the rotatable hub so that the arms can be swung from radial positions and folded towards one another into a compact form.

The second object of the invention is 55 achieved by the provision of a retaining member or cap which is capable of being detachably fitted to the free outer ends of the folded together arms whereby the arms can be retained in substantially parallelism 60 to form a pedestal having a part to which the hub is fitted as a base, the said cap serving as an ash-tray, a work-box or an ornament, or forming a supporting platform for these articles.

65 To enable the invention to be clearly un-

derstood, an embodiment thereof will now be described by way of example.

According to this embodiment, the winder comprises a base block fitted on its upper surface with a hub which rotates in 70 a horizontal plane when the winder is placed on a table, floor or other flat surface, the hub rotating freely about a vertical spindle upstanding from the block.

The hub is circular and is formed around 75 its periphery with diametrically opposed recesses or notches for receiving the inner ends of four or any other suitable number of radial spokes or arms, the inner ends of the arms being hinged in said recesses to 80 said hub so that they can be swung out of a horizontal plane into vertical or substantially vertical positions in which they extend upwardly at right angles from the hub and combine to form a pedestal of 85 skeleton form.

Each of the arms or spokes is formed with equidistantly spaced apart holes for receiving detachable hooks which may be of L or T shape or comprise simply plain 90 pegs. This enables the pegs to be adjusted to different radii from the centre of the hub to suit them for large or small skeins of wool and also enables the pegs on one arm to be arranged so that they alternate 95 with those on a diametrically opposed arm so that when the arms are swung together in parallelism, the pegs on one arm will not foul those extending from an opposite arm.

From the foregoing it will be appreci- 100 ated that the arms may be swung from wool winding positions in which they extend radially from the hub in a horizontal plane into positions at right angles thereto in which they form a vertically disposed skel- 105 eton framework or pedestal. The arms are retained in a vertical position by means of a cap formed with recesses in its lower surface which can be engaged over the upper free ends of the arms. This cap may 110 be plain and constitute a supporting surface for an ash-tray, work-box or an ornament, or may actually be constructed in itself as an ash-tray, work-box or ornament. The hooks bridge the spaces between 115 the folded together arms and combine with

the latter to form an open framework of pleasing appearance.

Although in the embodiment described the hub and foldable arms are supported by the base block so as to rotate in a horizontal plane, it will be appreciated that the hub could be supported to rotate with the

arms in a vertical plane.

The apparatus may be made wholly or partly of wood, metal, plastic or other suitable material.

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